



CITY OF HOUSTON

Library Department

Annise D. Parker

Mayor

Rhea Brown Lawson, Ph.D.
Director
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Received & Inspected

APR - 8 2011

FCC Mail Room

**CC Docket No. 02-6
REQUEST FOR WAIVER**

April 4, 2011

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Madam Secretary,

During the USAC 471 filing window, I failed to enter and submit one 471 by the filing deadline of March 24, 2011. I discovered the omission on March 30, 2011 and immediately filed

- **471 Application number:** 821557
- **Billed Entity Number :** 141211 Houston Public Library / HALAN IT Department
- **471 Form Identifier :** 471FY14PHONESC
- **FRN :** 2237375
- **SPIN :** 143008740 Phonoscope Inc.
- **Service :** Internet connection
- **Year 3 of a 3 year contract** initiated after 470 # 103210000713575 on January 14, 2009.

I am requesting the waiver due to an unusual convergence of events that distracted me.

First: Due to current year budget cuts, I did not have the assistance of the person who had handled our filing in previous years. Therefore this was my first time to handle 8 Form 470s and 10 Form 471s on my own for our 49 entities.

Second: Some were contracts and some were not, adding to the confusion.

Third: The 471 in question was the last year of a contract and did not need a 470 so it had been laid aside waiting on the 471 window.

Fourth: On February 24, my father-in-law passed away unexpectedly and I had to travel to another state with my wife and we were gone February 24 through March 6, 2011.

Fifth: While I was gone for the Funeral the Mayor announced a 26% budget cut for the Houston Public Library. Being a member of the Library executive team, the work to prepare the Information Technology budget cut of \$1,000,000 which will result in layoff of 9.5 FTEs, required work well into the night for several nights during the same period as the 471 window.

It was on March 30 as my assistant was filing all of the 470 and 471 documents into their appropriate files that they noticed no Form 471 document for the Phonoscope Internet Access file.

Houston Public Library serves over 2,264,305 Library Customers and in these economic times, many are using the Internet access to look for jobs, file resumes and applications and follow up with contacts.

I respectfully request your consideration of this waiver of the 471 filing window deadline for this one item.

Best Regards



Ronald Stauss
Assistant Director and CTO
Houston Public Library
500 McKinney St.
Houston, TX 77002

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Phone – 832-393-1400

Attachments:

Letter from Mayor Annise Parker regarding the 26% budget cut
Travel form for my bereavement leave.

ATTACHMENT 1



CITY OF HOUSTON

Interoffice

Correspondence

To: City Council
Department Directors

From: Annise D. Parker
Mayor

Date: March 3, 2011

Subject: FY 2012 Budget Departmental
Targets

There is no easy way to deliver the news you are receiving today. Our tough economic times have gotten tougher and it will mean some extremely tough, if not brutal, decisions in order to balance the FY12 budget.

We have worked to right-size City departments and have already implemented many cuts. This next round of cuts won't be easy. We anticipate a \$130 million, or 8%, shortfall between revenues and our existing level of expenses in FY12.

I considered across the board budget cuts of 8%, but I believe the impact of that approach would have been untenable. So, instead, I am proposing a sliding scale of cuts ranging from 5% to 26%, with what I consider our most essential life and safety services - police, fire, municipal courts and solid waste - being on the low end of that scale. We are planning for the worst case scenario. Between now and the adoption of a budget, my staff will work with department directors and City Council to find other savings and solutions that might help ease some of this pain.

We are forced to do what many Houston families and businesses have already done. We must prioritize which services to eliminate or cut further.

I know this will be tough. Tough not only for the employees who deliver City services, but also for the residents of this great city. However, I am optimistic that FY12 will be the worst of these tough economic times. We will emerge with a stronger and more secure financial future.

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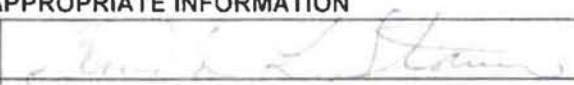
Attachment 2

CITY OF HOUSTON

Leave Authorization Request

FORM DATA - FILL IN APPROPRIATE INFORMATION			
EMPLOYEE NAME Ronald L. Stauss		EMPLOYEE NUMBER 134305	
DEPARTMENT LIBRARY		DIVISION IT	
DATE SUBMITTED 02/24/11	PREPARED BY R. Stauss	DATE OF LAST REQUEST	REASON Bereavement

ACTION DATA - FILL IN APPROPRIATE INFORMATION											
ACTION	BEGIN			END			NUMBER OF WORK DAYS			HRS	
							DAYS	HOLIDAY			
VACATION											
SICK LEAVE											
SICK LEAVE EXTENSION											
ABSENT											
FLOATING HOLIDAY											
DEATH IN FAMILY	2	28	11		3	3	11			24	
COMP. TIME											
JURY DUTY								ATTACH SUMMONS			
MILITARY LEAVE								ATTACH ORDERS			
OTHER (EXPLAIN BELOW)	3	4	11		3	4	11			8	
Personal Time off											

SIGNATURE DATA - FILL IN APPROPRIATE INFORMATION			
EMPLOYEE		DATE	02/24/11
SUPERVISOR		DATE	
APPROVING		DATE	